

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently amended) A transmitted-light illumination device for a microscope, comprising:

a light source configured to generate an illuminating light beam incident onto an object plane of an object to be imaged with the microscope, said illuminating light beam defining an optical axis;

a collector lens;

a field diaphragm;

an aperture diaphragm;

exactly one condenser lens system and only one condenser lens system, said condenser lens system configured to be switchable into and out of the illuminating light beam, wherein when the condenser lens system is switched out of the illuminating light beam no condenser lens system is present in the illuminating light beam; and

a focusing lens positioned between said field diaphragm and said aperture diaphragm, said focusing lens configured to be displaceable along the optical axis.

2. (Original) A transmitted-light illumination device for a microscope as defined in Claim 1, further comprising an electrical control apparatus configured to switch the condenser lens system into and out of the illuminating light beam.

3. (Original) A transmitted-light illumination device for a microscope as defined in Claim 1, further comprising a spindle motor configured to controllably displace said focusing lens along the optical axis.

4. (Original) A transmitted-light illumination device for a microscope as defined in Claim 2, further comprising a spindle motor configured to controllably displace said focusing lens along the optical axis.

5. (Original) A transmitted-light illumination device for a microscope as defined in Claim 1, wherein said condenser lens system is configured to be mechanically switchable into and out of the illuminating light beam.

6. (Currently Amended) A transmitted-light illumination device for a microscope as defined in Claim 1, wherein the illumination device is configured so that: a) an illumination of said object plane corresponding to an objective magnification range of approximately 10X to 100X is provided when said condenser lens system is switched into the illuminating light beam ~~path~~; and b) an illumination of said object plane corresponding to an objective magnification range of approximately 1X to 5X is provided when said condenser lens system is switched out of the illuminating light beam ~~path~~.

7. (Currently Amended) A transmitted-light illumination device for a microscope as defined in Claim 2, wherein the illumination device is configured so that: a) an illumination of said object plane corresponding to an objective magnification range of approximately 10X to 100X is provided when said condenser lens system is switched into the illuminating light beam ~~path~~; and b) an illumination of said object plane corresponding to an objective magnification range of approximately 1X to 5X is provided when said condenser lens system is switched out of the illuminating light beam ~~path~~.

8. (Currently Amended) A transmitted-light illumination device for a microscope as defined in Claim 3, wherein the illumination device is configured so that: a) an illumination of said object plane corresponding to an objective magnification range of approximately 10X to 100X is provided when said condenser lens system is switched into the illuminating light beam ~~path~~; and b) an illumination of said object plane corresponding to an objective magnification range of approximately 1X to 5X is provided when said condenser lens system is switched out of the illuminating light beam ~~path~~.

9. (Currently Amended) A transmitted-light illumination device for a microscope as defined in Claim 4, wherein the illumination device is configured so that: a) an illumination of said object plane corresponding to an objective magnification range of approximately 10X to 100X is provided when said condenser lens system is switched into the illuminating light

beam ~~path~~; and b) an illumination of said object plane corresponding to an objective magnification range of approximately 1X to 5X is provided when said condenser lens system is switched out of the illuminating light beam ~~path~~.

10. (Currently Amended) A transmitted-light illumination device for a microscope as defined in Claim 6, wherein said aperture diaphragm and said field diaphragm exchange their optical functions when said condenser lens system is switched out of the illuminating light beam ~~path~~.

11. (Currently Amended) A transmitted-light illumination device for a microscope as defined in Claim 10, wherein, when said condenser lens system is switched out of the illuminating light beam ~~path~~, said focusing lens is displaced such that said field diaphragm is focused into the object plane.

12. (Currently Amended) A transmitted-light illumination device for a microscope as defined in Claim 7, wherein said aperture diaphragm and said field diaphragm exchange their optical functions when said condenser lens system is switched out of the illuminating light beam ~~path~~.

13. (Currently Amended) A transmitted-light illumination device for a microscope as defined in Claim 12, wherein, when said condenser lens system is switched out of the illuminating light beam ~~path~~, said focusing lens is displaced such that said field diaphragm is focused into the object plane.

14. (Currently Amended) A transmitted-light illumination device for a microscope as defined in Claim 8, wherein said aperture diaphragm and said field diaphragm exchange their optical functions when said condenser lens system is switched out of the illuminating light beam ~~path~~.

15. (Currently Amended) A transmitted-light illumination device for a microscope as defined in Claim 14, wherein, when said condenser lens system is switched out of the illuminating light beam ~~path~~, said focusing lens is displaced such that said field diaphragm is focused into the object plane.

16. (Currently Amended) A transmitted-light illumination device for a microscope as defined in Claim 9, wherein said aperture diaphragm and said field diaphragm exchange their optical functions when said condenser lens system is switched out of the illuminating light beam path.

17. (Currently Amended) A transmitted-light illumination device for a microscope as defined in Claim 16, wherein, when said condenser lens system is switched out of the illuminating light beam path, said focusing lens is displaced such that said field diaphragm is focused into the object plane.

18. (Currently amended) A transmitted-light illumination device for a microscope as defined in Claim 1, wherein said condenser lens system comprises exactly one lens and only one lens.

19. (Original) A transmitted-light illumination device for a microscope as defined in Claim 1, wherein said condenser lens system comprises a plurality of lenses.

20. (Currently amended) A microscope having a transmitted-light illumination device, comprising:

a light source configured to generate an illuminating light beam incident onto an object plane of an object to be imaged with the microscope, said illuminating light beam defining an optical axis;

a collector lens;

a field diaphragm;

an aperture diaphragm;

exactly one condenser lens system and only one condenser lens system, said condenser lens system configured to be switchable into and out of the illuminating light beam, wherein when the condenser lens system is switched out of the illuminating light beam no condenser lens system is present in the illuminating light beam; and

a focusing lens positioned between said field diaphragm and said aperture diaphragm, said focusing lens configured to be displaceable along the optical axis.

21. (Currently amended) A microscope as defined in Claim 20, wherein said condenser lens system comprises exactly one lens and only one lens.

22. (Original) A microscope as defined in Claim 20, wherein said condenser lens system comprises a plurality of lenses.

23. (Currently amended) A microscope having a transmitted-light illumination device, comprising:

- a light source configured to generate an illuminating light beam incident onto an object plane of an object to be imaged with the microscope, said illuminating light beam defining an optical axis;

- a collector lens;

- a field diaphragm;

- an aperture diaphragm;

- a condenser lens system, said condenser lens system configured to be switchable into and out of the illuminating light beam, wherein when the condenser lens system is switched out of the illuminating light beam no condenser lens system is present in the illuminating light beam; and

- a focusing lens positioned between said field diaphragm and said aperture diaphragm, said focusing lens configured to be displaceable along the optical axis,

wherein the illumination device is configured so that: a) an illumination of said object plane corresponding to an objective magnification range of approximately 10X to 100X is provided when said condenser lens system is switched into the illuminating light beam ~~path~~; and b) an illumination of said object plane corresponding to an objective magnification range of approximately 1X to 5X is provided when said condenser lens system is switched out of the illuminating light beam ~~path~~.

24. (Currently amended) A microscope having a transmitted-light illumination device, comprising:

- a light source configured to generate an illuminating light beam incident onto an object plane of an object to be imaged with the microscope, said illuminating light beam defining an optical axis;

- a collector lens;

- a field diaphragm;

an aperture diaphragm;

a condenser lens system, said condenser lens system configured to be switchable into and out of the illuminating light beam, wherein when the condenser lens system is switched out of the illuminating light beam no condenser lens system is present in the illuminating light beam; and

a focusing lens positioned between said field diaphragm and said aperture diaphragm, said focusing lens configured to be displaceable along the optical axis,

wherein the illumination device is configured so that: a) an illumination of said object plane corresponding to an objective magnification range of approximately 10X to 100X is provided when said condenser lens system is switched into the illuminating light beam ~~path~~; and b) an illumination of said object plane corresponding to an objective magnification range of approximately 1X to 5X is provided when said condenser lens system is switched out of the illuminating light beam ~~path~~, and

wherein said aperture diaphragm and said field diaphragm exchange their optical functions when said condenser lens system is switched out of the illuminating light beam ~~path~~.

25. (Currently Amended) A microscope as defined in Claim 24, wherein, when said condenser lens system is switched out of the illuminating light beam ~~path~~, said focusing lens is displaced such that said field diaphragm is focused into the object plane.

26. (New) A transmitted-light illumination device for a microscope as defined in Claim 1, wherein the focusing lens is adapted to be always positioned in the illuminating light beam.

27. (New) A microscope as defined in Claim 20, wherein the focusing lens is adapted to be always positioned in the illuminating light beam.

28. (New) A microscope as defined in Claim 23, wherein the focusing lens is adapted to be always positioned in the illuminating light beam.

29. (New) A microscope as defined in Claim 24, wherein the focusing lens is adapted to be always positioned in the illuminating light beam.